



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

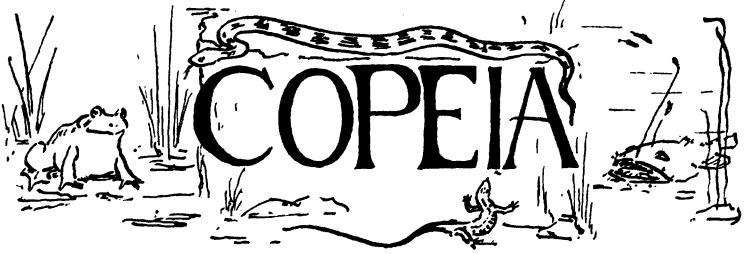
This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.



Published by the contributors to advance the Science of cold-blooded vertebrates.

NOTES ON THE GILA MONSTER.

In May, 1907, the Children's Museum in Brooklyn received a fine specimen, 17 inches in length, of the Gila Monster, *Heloderma suspectum* Cope, captured a few weeks previous near Tucson, Arizona. When it died, February 3, 1914, or almost seven years after captivity, it measured 18 inches.

At first vicious and ever ready with partly open jaws and quick motions of the head to snap at an intruder, the lizard became sluggish after a few weeks, rarely attempting to bite even when handled. It frequently drank water, but refused to take food, such as eggs, whole or beaten, chopped beef, or milk. After two months of such behavior, forcible feeding was resorted to. This was accomplished by means of a glass tube, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in diameter and 18 inches long. The procedure briefly was as follows: grasping the lizard just behind the head and holding it in a vertical position the jaws were pried open with a strong pair of dental forceps, the tube inserted to a depth of from 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches and the contents of one beaten egg allowed to run down. Thereafter this operation was repeated once a month. It worked perfectly; there was no

spilling and the reptile apparently thrived. Dissection after death showed blood-clots around the heart; otherwise all organs looked normal. Thick layers of fat lined the sides of the abdomen. A few days before, while feeding, the forceps slipped and the reptile's jaws closed with sufficient force to splinter the glass tube. Injury received through this accident probably caused death.

Shedding of the skin did not occur at regular intervals, but rather continuously, small patches peeling off here and there.

On October 26, 1907, a museum attendant was bitten in the fleshy part of the base of the thumb of the right hand. The reptile's hold was extremely tenacious, and some time, perhaps a minute, elapsed before the hand was released. The wound showed 6 small punctures. Swelling and discoloration of the hand, accompanied by great pain in the hand and arm, followed quickly. Although immediately placed under medical care, when the patient reported for duty two weeks later, he still complained of numbness in the hand and arm and occasional dizziness. Lack of mental reserve and a physical condition below the average in this case no doubt contributed in rendering the effect of the Gila Monster's bite unusually severe.

GEORGE P. ENGELHARDT,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

A HYBRID CENTRARCHID.

On December 12-14, 1911, a small collection of fishes was made in the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal above Violet's Lock, about 25 miles above the city of Washington, D. C.

Among the fishes taken was a Centrarchid which is apparently a cross between *Chænobryttus*